

**ROCKLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS
ROCKLAND, MASSACHUSETTS**

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 26, 2009, 6:30 PM
ROCKLAND HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY**

The School Committee met on Tuesday, May 26, 2009, at 6:30 PM in the High School Library. Committee members present were: Mr. Norris, Mrs. Pezzella, Mr. Mills, Mr. Mullen, and Mrs. Werkheiser. Superintendent Retchless, Assistant Superintendent Scarpelli, Mrs. Cusick, and were also present.

Representing the press were citizens broadcasting for WRPS/TV.

Mr. Sangster, High School Principal; Ms. Salem, Director of Pupil Personnel Services; Mr. Kohn and Dr. Levine, Jefferson Co-Principals; Mr. Stanish, Middle School Principal; Mr. Graziano, Athletic Director; a member of the Special Education PAC, and members of the Jefferson School PAC were present in the audience.

On motion of Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous, the minutes of the meeting of May 11, 2009 were accepted.

A request from the MASS Sports Club to distribute flyers at the elementary and middle schools and to post at the high school was approved on the recommendation of the Superintendent. Motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mrs. Pezzella, unanimous.

A request from the Rockland Girl Scouts to distribute flyers at Pre-Kindergarten, elementary, and middle schools was approved on the recommendation of the Superintendent. Motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous.

The Superintendent reported that the stage floor replacement has been completed and commended Mr. Dunn, the maintenance department, Mr. Harden, Music Director, and students for their efforts in the project. It was also noted that the 99 Restaurant will donate the funds for this project. Mr. Retchless gave an overview of the Memorial Day activities at the elementary schools and congratulated the parties involved for a job well done. The Superintendent reminded the Committee about the Override Election that will be held on Saturday, May 30th. Recent school activities included the Green Fashion Show at the high school and the Great East band competition.

On four separate motions by Mr. Mills, seconds by Mr. Mullen, unanimous, the following Financial Reports for April were accepted:

- 1) School Department
- 2) High School Student Activities
- 3) Middle School Student Activities
- 4) Cafeteria

On eighteen separate motions by Mr. Mills, seconds by Mr. Mullen, unanimous, the following March/April Monthly Reports were accepted:

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| 1) Art | Mrs. Gibson |
| 2) Athletic | Mr. Graziano |
| 3) Computer Technology | Mrs. Bailey |
| 4) Day Care | Mrs. Veiga |
| 5) Deans | Mrs. Schipper/Mr. Damon |
| 6) English | Mr. Woodward |
| 7) Family Consumer Sci./Tech Ed. | Mr. Graziano |
| 8) Foreign Language | Ms. Buckley |
| 9) Library/IMC | Mrs. Linehan |
| 10) Math | Mrs. Bailey |
| 11) Music | Mr. Harden |
| 12) Radio/TV Station | Mr. Cable-Murphy |
| 13) Science | Ms. Higgins |
| 14) Social Studies | Mr. Grimmatt |
| 15) Special Education (8-12) | Mrs. McGonnigal |
| 16) Title I | Mrs. Scott |
| 17) Middle School | Ms. Bohn |
| 18) Response to Intervention | |

On the motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous, it was voted to table the vote on the 2009-2010 EASE Handbook.

After a general discussion, it was voted to table the vote on the 2009-2010 Elementary Handbook. Motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mrs. Pezzella, unanimous.

After a general discussion, it was voted to table the vote on the 2009-2010 Middle School Handbook. Motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous.

On the motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous, it was voted to approve the 2009-2010 Middle School Program of Studies.

Mrs. Werkheiser announced that the next meeting of the School Building Committee will be held on Tuesday, June 2, 2009. Mr. Walter, Dore & Whittier architect, gave a proposed space summary of core academic space, a lecture room, increase in size of the science labs, a "green" building savings. The Committee invited Mr. Walter to attend a meeting before the end of the school year.

There was no information from the School Budget Sub-Committee as there had been no meeting.

On the motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous, it was voted to award the Designer Services Bid to Habeeb & Associates, Architects.

On the motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mrs. Pezzella, unanimous, it was voted to award the Electrical Services Bid to Your Electrical Solution.

After a general discussion, it was voted to change the Rockland High School Athletic Program's league affiliation from the Patriot League to the South Shore League beginning in the 2010-2011 School Year. Motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mrs. Werkheiser, unanimous.

Mr. Sangster, High School Principal, gave the Committee an overview of the various activities of the High School Council, the PAC and an update of NEASC. It was noted that there is a great deal of participation on the part of parents of high school students in the Athletic Booster and Band Booster Clubs. The School Council was involved in the following topics: student handbook, dress code, tardiness policy, Summer Reading Program and technology. The NEASC update included core values, learning expectation, and the mission statement. A steering committee will be working on the self study in the fall.

Members of the Jefferson PAC reviewed various fundraisers, grants and donations, field trips, and cultural activities that occurred at the school.

Mr. Kohn and Dr. Levine, Jefferson School Co-Principals, reviewed the activities of the School Council which included curriculum, Professional Development, and student services. The Principals commended the PAC members for their hard work and efforts on behalf of the students at Jefferson School.

Ms. Salem, Director of Pupil Personnel Services, and Mr. Lyons, reviewed the activities of the SPED PAC for the year including meeting agendas and the annual toll booth. It was noted that all parents of students on IEPs receive a post card notifying them of meetings.

The Superintendent reviewed the 2009 Summer School Program and commended Mrs. Lamb and Mrs. Cusick for their effort with this project.

On the motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous, it was voted to declare a refrigerator in the high school science department as surplus.

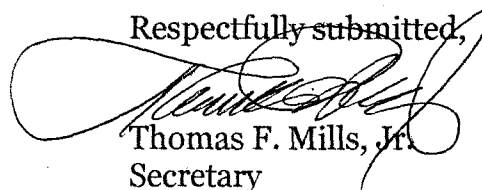
On the motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous, it was voted to approve the Reduction in Force language that was ratified by the Rockland Education Association. The language will be added to the teachers' contract.

On the motion by Mrs. Pezzella, seconded by Mr. Mills, unanimous, it was voted to table the Discipline of Students with Special Needs statement for the school handbooks.

The Committee applauded the teachers' union for agreeing to a one year 0% raise with a freeze for steps and lanes. The Superintendent also commended the teachers for their efforts and noted that surrounding town unions have taken notice of the Rockland teachers' decision. Congratulations were extended to the Rockland High School graduating class. The Committee reminded the public that the Override Election will be held on May 30th. Mr. Norris reported on the Memorial Day activities at the Esten School and asked that the South Coastal Bank be sent a letter thanking them for their contribution to help pay for this project.

On the motion by Mrs. Pezzella, seconded by Mr. Mills, unanimous, the meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas F. Mills, Jr.
Secretary